Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 HELSIN 02435 281240Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----------121532 281242Z /50
O R 281202Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3017
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T HELSINKI 2435

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, PCAT, UR, US
SUBJECT: PRESS Q'S AND A'S ON CAT

1. Q - WHAT DID YOU ACHIEVE THIS ROUND?
A - THIS IS THE THIRD MEETING ON THE SUBJECT, AND ACTUALLY ONLY THE SECOND SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGE. THE FIRST ROUND WAS PRELIMINARY AND COVERED ONLY TWO DAYS. THE DISCUSSIONS WERE SUBSTANTIVE AND CONCRETE AND MOVED BOTH SIDES TO THE POINT WHERE THE NEXT ROUND SHOULD PRODUCE CONCRETE RESULTS.

2. Q - WHEN IS THE NEXT ROUND?
A - PROBABLY IN THE BEGINNING OF DECEMBER.

3. Q - WHY SO LATE WHEN BOTH SIDES SAID PROBLEM WAS URGENT?
A - TWO REASONS: (A) A GOOD DEAL OF SUBSTANCE WAS EXCHANGED THIS ROUND, AND TIME FOR THOROUGH STUDY IS REQUIRED BY BOTH SIDES, AND (B) DURING THAT PROCESS THE SIDES WILL MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH OAAIUNXER AND CONTINUE CONSULTATIONS ON THESE MATTERS.

4. Q - WHERE WILL THE NEXT ROUND BE?
A - NOT DECIDED.

5. Q - DO YOU REALLY EXPECT TO ACHIEVE ANYTHING OUT OF
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 HELSIN 02435 281240Z

THESE NEGOTIATIONS?
A - GIVEN THE FACT THAT THERE HAVE BEEN ONLY TWO SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGES AND GIVEN COMPLEXITY OF THIS SUBJECT, THERE HAS BEEN GOOD PROGRESS TO DATE. WE'LL BE ABLE TO TELL BETTER AFTER THE NEXT ROUND.

6. Q - HOW ARE BUYERS FROM BOTH SIDES REACTING TO US-SOVIET

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

TALKS.
A - WE ARE KEEPING THEM INFORMED. AT UNSSOD, ALL PARTIES --
RECIPIENTS AND SUPPLIERS -- AGREED TO SEEK CONVENTIONAL
ARMS RESTRAINT MEASURES. THE U.S. AND USSR, AS THE TWO
LARGEST SUPPLIERS, BEAR HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY TO ENCOURAGE
AND SUPPORT RESTRAINT. THE U.S. HAS MADE CLEAR TO THOSE
WHO DEPEND UPON US FOR ARMS THAT WE WILL NOT PUT THEM AT A
UNILATERAL DISADVANTAGE.

7. Q. WHAT ABOUT FRENCH, BRITISH, WEST GERMANS, ETC?
A - WE CONTINUE TO INFORM AND CONSULT WITH OUR FRIENDS ON THIS
SUBJECT. THEY ARE AWARE OF THE DIFFICULTIES, AS ARE WE, AND
THEY CONTINUE TO LOOK TO THE US AND USSR TO MAKE A BEGINNING.

8. Q - WHAT REGIONS DISCUSSED, WHAT GUIDELINES PROPOSED.
A - (A) NO COMMENTS ON REGIONS.
(B) U.S. PRESENTATION CONTINUES TO BE BASED ON THE
PRESIDENT'S POLICY OF MAY 1977.

9. Q - WHY SHOULD SOVIETS AGREE TO RESTRAIN THEIR ARMS
SALES?
A - AS THEY STATED PUBLICLY IN OUR JOINT COMMUNIQUE
AT THE END OF THE LAST ROUND, THE ISSUE OF ARMS TRANSFERS
HAS IMPORTANT EFFECTS ON U.S.- SOVIET RELATIONS AND THE SECURITY
OF MANY NATIONS. AS TO WHETHER THEY'LL AGREE, WE'LL SEE.

SECRET

SECRET

10. Q - THE LAST COMMUNIQUE WAS EXTENSIVE AND SUBSTANTIVE.
WHY IS THIS ONE SO SHORT?
A - THIS IS A PRESS RELEASE, SIMPLY MEANT TO ANNOUNCE
THE END OF THIS ROUND. DURING THE LAST ROUND WE AGREED ON
THE SERIOUSNESS AND URGENCY OF THE CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFER
PROBLEM, AS WELL AS SOME DIRECTIONS IN WHICH TO SEEK SOLUTIONS.
THE COMMUNIQUE FROM THAT ROUND REFLECTED THIS SUBSTANTIAL NEW
AREA OF AGREEMENT. ON THE BASIS OF THAT COMMON GROUND, WE ARE
NOW PROCEEDING TO SEEK SOLUTIONS. WHEN THESE BEGIN TO TAKE
SHAPE, WE WILL HAVE MORE TO SAY.

11. Q - WERE THE SOVIETS LESS ENTHUSIASTIC THIS TIME? IS THE
CURRENT STATE OF RELATIONS AFFECTING THE NEGOTIATIONS?
A - NO, ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS ARE IMPORTANT TO OUR
NATIONAL INTEREST AND ARE PROCEEDING. THE SOVIET
PARTICIPATION IN THESE PARTICULAR TALKS HAS BEEN
SERIOUS.

12. GELB AND BLECHMAN WISH TO SEE HODDING CARTER
ON MONDAY TO DISCUSS.
FRY

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

SECRET

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978HELSIN02435
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780310-0139
Format: TEL
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780710/aaaaailo.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e93ac06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1845830
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS Q\'S AND A\'S ON CAT
TAGS: PARM, PCAT, UR, US
To: STATE MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e93ac06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014